(a) whether it is a fact that the registered demand of gas is around 240 MMSCMD while allocation is committed for 90 MMCMD;

(b) the areas and projects for which commitment is made;

(c) what would be the recoverable balance if 90 MMCMD is consumed after two decades; and

(d) what is the time schedule to fulfil the committed and registered demand ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gas allocations have been made to various fertiliser, power and sponge iron plants, to other industrial consumers, and for City Gas Distribution at Hazira, Uran along the HBJ pipeline, in Assam and Tripura, and in the K. G. and Cauvery Basin.

(c) The balance recoverable reserves would depend on the accretion of additional reserves during the two decade period.

(d) It is proposed to meet the committed demand by the end of Eighth Plan period. Allocations against the additional registered demand would depend on the establishment of additional gas reserves in various regions.

Short term parking of surplus funds with Oil Companies

1489. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have lately taken steps to encourage short term parking of surplus funds by rich oil companies as reported in the Economic Times of September 15, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme; and

(c) what are the main objects thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Privatisation of marketing of L.P.G. L.S.H.S. and Kerosene

1490. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow the private sector to market L.P.G., L.S.H.S. and Kerosene in the country;

(b) if so, what is the decision taken by Government in the matter.

(c) what are the considerations which weighted with Government to allow the private sector to market these products; and

(d) what is its likely impact on the price structure and the consumer as a whole ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) There is no such decision of the Government of India.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन में गिरावट ।

1491. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
श्री वीरेन जे० शाह :

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश में कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन में निरंतर गिरावट आ रही है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में ऐसे अनेक मध्यम और छोटे आकार के कच्चे तेल के भण्डार थे जिनसे उत्पादन किया जा सकता था;

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने ऐसे मध्यम और छोटे आकार के कच्चे तेल के भण्डार क्षेत्रों से कितना-कितना वार्षिक